

CLAIMS

1. Shower pipe (1) intended to be connected between domestic water supply  
5 means and a showerhead (10), said pipe comprising a shower hose (2) connected to  
a two-way valve which comprises a body (3) inside which is accommodated a portion  
of a core (4) through which passes a longitudinal water passage (6) connecting the  
inlet and the outlet of the valve, which shower pipe is characterised in that the valve  
comprises at least one actuating system (5) with a valve closure member, means (7)  
10 for guiding the actuating system in the core (4) of the valve and means (8) for  
returning the actuating system to a rest position, the actuating system with a valve  
closure member (5) adapted to be moved in a direction (D) substantially  
perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the passage (6) between a position of partial  
or complete closure, in which a lower portion of the system (5b) forming a valve  
15 closure member shuts off the passage (6) partially or completely, and a rest position  
in which water may pass freely through the passage (6) of the core (4) between the  
inlet and the outlet of the valve, and in that the actuating system (5) with a valve  
closure member has an upper portion (5a) projecting out of the valve body (3) and  
conformed to allow movement of the system from the rest position to the position of  
20 partial or complete closure of the passage (6) when the valve is inserted into a  
housing (21) of a wall-mounted showerhead holder (20) whose shape is  
complementary to the exterior shape of the body (3) of the valve.

2. Shower pipe according to claim 1, characterised in that the valve is fixed  
25 to the showerhead (11) end of the shower hose in such a manner it may not be  
demounted.

3. Shower pipe according to claim 1, characterised in that the return means  
comprise a spring (8) crossing the longitudinal passage (6) perpendicularly, a first  
portion of the spring being placed in an interior housing (12) of the actuating system  
30 (5) and a second portion of said spring being placed in a housing (14) of the core at  
the end of the passage (6) opposite the actuating system (5).

4. Shower pipe according to claim 1, characterised in that the two-way valve  
comprises at least two actuating systems (5, 15) with a valve closure member  
disposed in the guide means (7) of the core (4) on two opposite sides of the passage  
35 (6), each valve closure member lower portion (5b, 15b) of one of the systems moving  
towards the other upon movement of each system into a position of partial or  
complete closure to shut off the longitudinal passage (6) completely or partially.

5. Shower pipe according to claim 4, characterised in that the return means comprise a spring (8) crossing the longitudinal passage (6) perpendicularly, a first portion of the spring being accommodated in a first interior housing (12) that is part of the first actuating system (5) and a second portion of said spring being 5 accommodated in a second interior housing (16) that is part of the second actuating system (15).

6. Shower pipe according to any of the preceding claims, characterised in that each actuating system (5, 15) with a valve closure member comprises a groove (40) or a projection tracing out a portion of a helix on an exterior surface of the 10 system and in that the valve body (3) comprises, in an opening (13, 17) passing through the upper portion (5a, 15a) of each system, a protuberance (41) co-operating with the groove or a slot co-operating with the projection to impose rotation of each system upon movement in a direction substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the passage (6) between a rest position and a position of partial 15 or complete closure of the passage.

7. Shower pipe according to any of the preceding claims, characterised in that the guide means (7) of the core (4) are of tubular shape and extend from one end of the passage (6) in the case of one actuating system (5) or from two opposite ends of the passage in the case of two actuating systems (5, 15), the longitudinal 20 axis of the guide means being substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the passage, and in that each actuating system comprises an O-ring (9) disposed in a circular groove (18) in an intermediate part of the actuating system, the O-ring being in contact with the tubular interior surface of the guide means (7).

8. Shower pipe according to either claim 1 or claim 3, characterised in that 25 each actuating system (5, 15) with a valve closure member comprises a shoulder (11) abutting, in the rest position, against an interior surface of the valve body (3) around an opening (13, 17) through the upper portion (5a, 15a) of the actuating system, which is in particular of rounded shape.

9. Two-way valve for a shower pipe (1) according to claim 1, an inlet of said 30 valve being intended to be removably connected to the shower hose (2) and an outlet of the valve being intended to be connected to a showerhead (10), said valve comprising a body (3) inside which is accommodated a portion of a core (4) through which passes a longitudinal water passage (6) connecting the inlet and the outlet of the valve, which valve is characterised in that it comprises at least one actuating 35 system (5) with a valve closure member, means (7) for guiding the actuating system in the core of the valve, and return means (8) for returning the actuating system to a

rest position, the actuating system (5) with a valve closure member being adapted to be moved in a direction (D) substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the passage (6) between a position of partial or complete closure, in which a valve closure member lower portion (5b) of the system shuts off the passage (6) partly or completely, and a rest position, in which water may pass freely through the passage (6) of the core (4) between the inlet and the outlet of the valve, and in that the actuating system (5) with a valve closure member comprises an upper portion (5a) projecting out of the valve body (3) and conformed to allow movement of the system from the rest position to the position of partial or complete closure of the passage (6) when the valve is inserted in a housing (21) of a wall-mounted showerhead holder (20) of complementary shape to the exterior shape of the body (3) of the valve.

10. Valve according to claim 9, characterised in that the return means comprise a spring (8) crossing the longitudinal passage (6) perpendicularly, a first portion of the spring being accommodated in an interior housing (12) of the actuating system (5) and a second portion of said spring being accommodated in a housing (14) in the core at one end of the passage (6) opposite the actuating system (5).

15. Valve according to claim 9, characterised in that it comprises at least two actuating systems (5, 15) with a valve closure member disposed in the guide means (7) of the core (4) at two opposite ends of the passage (6) and, upon movement of each system to a position of partial or complete closure, the valve closure member lower portions (5b, 15b) of the systems moving towards each other to close the longitudinal passage (6) completely or partially.

20. Valve according to claim 11, characterised in that the return means comprise a spring (8) crossing the longitudinal passage (6) perpendicularly, a first portion of the spring being accommodated in a first interior housing (12) that is part of the first actuating system (5) and a second portion of said spring being accommodated in a second interior housing (16) that is part of the second actuating system (15).

25. Valve according to claim 9, characterised in that each actuating system (5, 15) with a valve closure member comprises a groove (40) or a projection tracing out a portion of a helix on an exterior surface of the system and in that the valve body (3) comprises, in an opening (13, 17) passing through the upper portion (5a, 15a) of each system, a protuberance (41) co-operating with the groove or a slot co-operating with the projection to impose rotation of each system upon movement thereof in a direction substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the passage (6) between a rest position and a position of partial or complete closure of

the passage.

14. Valve according to claim 9, characterised in that the guide means (7) of the core (4) are of tubular shape and extend from one end of the passage (6) in the case of one actuating system (5) or from two opposite ends of the passage in the 5 case of two actuating systems (5, 15), the longitudinal axis of the guide means being substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the passage, and in that each actuating system comprises an O-ring (9) disposed in a circular groove (18) on an intermediate portion of the actuating system and in contact with the tubular interior surface of the guide means.

10 15. Valve according to either claim 9 or claim 11, characterised in that each actuating system (5, 15) with a valve closure member comprises a shoulder (11) abutting against an interior surface of the valve body (3) around an opening (13, 17) passing, in the rest position, through the upper portion (5a, 15a) of the actuating system, which is in particular of rounded shape.